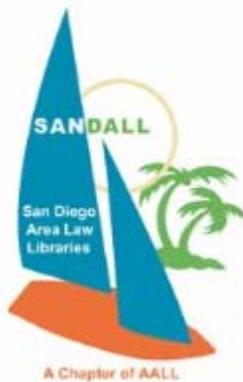


## **San Diego Area Law Libraries 2019-2020 Annual Report to AALL**



SANDALL completed its 22<sup>nd</sup> year as a chapter and held five events between July 2019 and January 2020. In July, SANDALL hosted the Pacific Joint Chapters Reception at the AALL Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. at City Tap, a restaurant in the Penn Quarter. Between the five west coast chapters the event had 82 attendees. Of this number, 16 were SANDALL affiliated. Thomson Reuters sponsored the reception. In August our members participated as a group in the San Diego Bicycle Coalition’s annual “Bike the Bay”, a 25-mile fun ride around San Diego Bay. In October, several of our members participated in the American Cancer Society fundraising walk, “Make Strides Against Breast Cancer”, in Balboa Park. Members raised over \$300 for this cause. In December, for a second year in a row, we held our annual holiday party at Bo Beau Kitchen + Garden Restaurant in La Mesa. One of our most popular events, we gathered 30 participants for this festive dinner party. In January members attended a tour of Gensler architectural library in downtown San Diego. Afterwards members gathered for networking and fun at a local restaurant in the Gaslamp Quarter. The event was organized by SANDALL member Michele Knapp and Executive Board Member, Ian Kipnes.

In late January our Vice President and Program Planner, Erin Grimes, resigned because she started a new position in Atlanta, GA. Her official resignation date was February 1, 2020, the six-month point of her term. Since only six months remained in the term the SANDALL by-laws allow for the president to appoint members to vacant positions in lieu of holding a special election. Ian Kipnes, who was serving on the board as Executive Board Member, was appointed as Vice President and Eriberto “Eddie” Ramirez was appointed to the Executive Board Member vacancy.

On March 19, 2020, the Governor of California, Gavin Newsom, issued a statewide stay-at-home order due to the dangerous spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Because of the length of the stay-at-home order, which has lasted into June, programs planned for the remainder of the 2019-2020 term had to be cancelled or suspended.

As the term ended in June COVID-19 was still prevalent with new cases increasing at an alarming rate in California. Despite some restrictions on public gatherings being lifted, our final board meeting and our annual

business meeting were held via Zoom, a web-based teleconferencing application, as we deemed it too risky to meet in person.

Because of limited space this year the Archives Committee had to move the SANDALL Print Archives to a storage room on the first floor at the University of San Diego's Legal Research Center. Izabela Aleksieva, has stepped down as committee chair and this position remains vacant. The SANDALL Print Archive needs to have someone on site to maintain the collection and serve as the SANDALL Archivist, or the collection needs to move. This matter remains for the next Archivist to handle with the committee.

This year, Lisa Foster and Marianne Sterna served as the co-chairs for the SANDALL Connect program. Connect meetings have generally been on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic this year, although one meeting was held before the COVID-19 related stay-at-home order. When meetings were held last year, attendance at the monthly Saturday breakfast meetings was low, therefore, the co-chairs are discussing changing the timing and location of meetings (or possibly holding Zoom Connect meetings) when they resume in an effort to increase participation in the meetings. Another change to the Connect program was the creation of a mentoring committee in November 2019.

SANDALL Employment Committee researched and compiled legal and non-legal library and information science employment opportunities, publishing a weekly job list on the SANDALL listserv. This year the committee advertised many unique job opportunities and continues to provide this service over the summer months when other committees are on break. Alan Harjala is our Employment Committee chair and we value the wonderful service of him and his team.

The Government Relations Committee continues to monitor legislation and to share AALL Government Relations news with the SANDALL listserv. Chair Rachel Green shared AALL Washington alerts published in the eBulletin, eNewsletter, and eNews, highlighting particularly important government relations updates. Through the end of 2019, AALL published a monthly Washington eBulletin, which GRC shared with the membership shortly after publication. Starting in January 2020, AALL started publishing government

relations updates in the following manner: through the biannual Washington eBulletin; through a section in the monthly eNewsletter; and through a section in the weekly eNews. The monthly and weekly publications do not always have a Washington Update. Over the past year, GRC has shared 8 Washington eBulletins, 2 eNewsletters, and 6 eNews messages.

Marie Templo-Capule is our Grant Committee chair. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and with the news of summer conferences and other professional events being cancelled no grant applications were received

This year, Lisa Foster was the chair for the SANDALL membership committee. At the Annual Business Meeting in June 2019, a decision was made by the Board to change the timing of the SANDALL membership renewal notices in order to better conform with the Chapter's Bylaws. Article 3, Section 3 of the Bylaws states that the year for dues shall begin in July 1. For that reason, the usual membership renewal drive did not take place in Fall 2019, and the existing memberships were extended until July 1, 2020. It is anticipated that membership renewal notices will be sent out in July. As of June 23, 2020, SANDALL had 88 dues paying members and 2 emeritus (lifetime) members who are not charged dues, for a total of 90 members. This is an overall increase in membership of 8 members compared with the membership in May 2019.

SANDALL News continues to thrive electronically using the online marketing service, Mail Chimp. This year we averaged a 35.72% open rate over five newsletter issues (September 2019, November 2019, January 2020, March 2020, and June 2020). Our most popular issue was November 2019 issue which highlighted the SDLL's participation at the CLA annual conference, a write up by David Isom on the 2019 IALL annual course, and a new member profile for Eriberto Ramirez at SDLL. Melissa Abernathy is SANDALL's News Editor and chairs this committee.

SANDALL Nominations Committee was tasked with finding both a president and a new vice president for the 2020-2021 term year due to the resignation of the vice president in February. Additionally this committee was tasked with recruiting new board members for the Secretary and Executive Board Member positions for the 2020-2021 board. Suzanne Smith and Leigh Inman

co-chair the Nominations Committee chairs and we appreciate the challenging work they do for SANDALL.

SANDALL Public Relations Committee continued to promote the Chapter and its events through various social media platforms like LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter. Betsy Chesler stepped down as committee chair, with Michele Villagran filling in until the vacancy is filled.

The May election brought a new President, Vice President, Secretary and Executive Board Member:

2020-2021 Officers include: Ian Kipnes, President; Eriberto Ramirez, Vice-President; Havilah Bakken, Secretary; Kelly Keach, Treasurer; Chris Pickford, Executive Board Member.

2019-2020 Officers include: Chris Pickford, President; Ian Kipnes, Vice-President (replacing Erin Grimes mid-term); Sasha Orman, Secretary; Kelly Keach, Treasure; Eriberto Ramirez (replacing Ian Kipnes mid-term), Executive Board Member.

At the June business meeting, SANDALL welcomed five new members and one new officer, Havilah Bakken. Thanks was given to outgoing Secretary, Sasha Orman. The meeting was dedicated to the memory of Miriam Joan Allen-Hart, one of the founding members of SANDALL, who passed away on May 19, 2020. Longtime member, Brent Bernau was honored at the meeting. Mr. Bernau retired earlier this year. He was the first president of SANDALL, 1998-1999, and served three more terms on the board as Vice President, President, and Past President between 2011-2014. He was also involved in various SANDALL committees over the years. In recognition of his service to SANDALL he has been awarded emeritus (lifetime membership) status.

Chris Pickford  
SANDALL President, 2019-2020